

Application No. 09/682,496
Amendment dated September 9, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 12, 2003

REMARKS

Pursuant to the above-noted Office Action, claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 12-19, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) given Ranson et al. (GB 2,346,351 A) ("Ranson"). Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 12-19 and 23 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) given Strandell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,505,109) ("Strandell"). The Examiner also objected to FIG. 1 and further noted that the applicant's certified copy of the foreign priority document has not yet been submitted. The applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and respectfully requests reconsideration.

1. The applicant is in the process of obtaining a certified copy of the priority application as filed in Sweden on September 9, 2000. This document will be forwarded to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as soon as it is available.

2. FIG. 1 was objected to for including unlabeled parts. A proposed drawing correction is submitted with this response. Upon receiving the Examiner's approval, a formal version thereof will be submitted for entry into the record.

3. Claims 3-5, 9-11, and 20-22 were objected to as depending upon a rejected base claim but were found to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Pursuant to this response, claims 3, 9, and 20 have each been rewritten in independent form to include the base claim content. The applicant therefore respectfully submits that claims 3-5, 9-11, and 20-22 may be passed to allowance.

4. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 12-19, and 23 have been rejected as being anticipated by either the Ranson reference or the Strandell reference. Pursuant to this response, however, independent claims 1, 7, and 16 have been revised to specify that the electric motor generates "exactly one" torque pulse as versus only "a" torque pulse. The applicant respectfully submits that neither reference anticipates such an embodiment and hence these independent claims are allowable over the prior art references of record.

The remaining claims are ultimately dependent upon one of these independent claims, which claims have been shown allowable above. In addition, these claims introduce additional subject matter that, particularly when considered in context with the base claims from which

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they depend, constitutes additional incremental patentable subject matter. For all of these reasons, the applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 12-19, and 23 may be passed to allowance.

5. There being no other objections to or rejections of the claims, the applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-23 may be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 9, 2003

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